

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend paragraph starting at line 21 on page 9 of the originally filed specification as follows.

FIGS. 2(A) and 2(B) explain the operation of the solidifying mechanism portion 7. As shown in FIG. 2(A), when the mold 8 is held at the position, where the upper surface inlet 8c of the mold 8 is aligned with the outlet 6aa of the supply duct 8a of the supply mechanism 6, by the effect of a free fall or a forced charging from the supply duct 6a, the dust 10 enters into the interior of the mold 8. The flow of the dust 10 into the mold 8 stops when it fills up to the mold surface forming portion 8a and to the metering ~~quality-chamber~~ 8b inside the mold 8. In a condition in which a predetermined amount of the dust 10 is thus supplied, the mold 8 slides (FIG. 2(B)) to the position where the upper surface inlet 8c thereof is aligned with the elevated position of the plunger 11. In this condition, the plunger 11 advances into the mold 8 to press the dust within the mold 8. The plunger 11 advances to an upper end of the mold surface forming portion 8a within the mold 8 and, in this condition, a predetermined pressure acts on the dust 10 within the mold surface forming portion 8a, with the dust 10 within the mold consequently pressed and formed into the steel manufacturing dust solidified B of an outer peripheral shape conforming to the shape of an inner surface of the mold surface forming portion 8a.